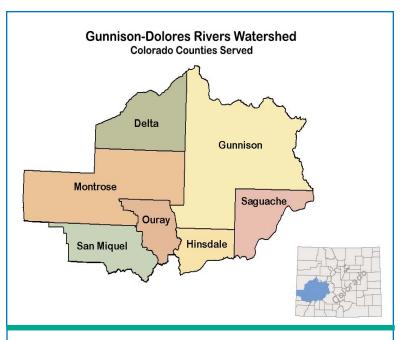
What is a Watershed? A watershed is the land that water flows across or under on its way to a stream, river, or lake. Everyone lives in a watershed. You and everyone in your watershed are part of the watershed community.

Colorado Watershed Approach: Instead of the traditional statewide approach in addressing priority resource issues like soil erosion, water quality, grazing lands, wildlife, and animal waste, NRCS looks to Colorado's ten watersheds to identify their particular local resource needs and priorities. Watershed work groups meet annually to determine which natural resource concerns are most prevalent in their communities. In turn, Colorado NRCS focuses its resources on addressing those concerns. Colorado's local conservation districts provide leadership in this effort to foster increased decision making at the local level.



6,014,600 Acres

Land Use	Acres
Irrigated Cropland	290,000
Non-Irrigated Cropland	20,000
Rangeland	1,150,000
Irrigated Hay & Pasture	72,800
Non-Irrigated Hay & Pasture	43,000
Forest Land	450,000
Urban	27,000
Conservation Reserve Program	3,450
Federal Lands	3,958,350



Resources at Work in the Gunnison-Dolores Rivers Watershed



The Grassland Reserve Program (GRP) is a voluntary program that helps landowners restore and protect grasslands, including rangeland and pastureland, while maintaining the areas as grazing lands. It emphasizes support for grazing operations, plant and animal biodiversity, and grassland under the greatest threat of conversion.

FY 2004 GRP Statewide Activity

Applications Received
Applications Contracted
Dollars Approved \$2,250,000
Acres Under Contract 9,066
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Resources at Work in the Gunnison-Dolores Rivers Watershed

The Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) is a voluntary program that encourages creation of high quality wildlife habitats that support wildlife populations of National, State, Tribal, and local significance. Through WHIP, NRCS

FY 2004 WHIP Activities

 provides technical and financial assistance to landowners and others to develop upland, wetland, riparian, and aquatic habitat areas on their property.

The Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP), a voluntary program, offers landowners technical and financial support to protect, restore, and enhance wetlands on their property.

FY 2004 WRP Activities					
Type	Approved	Acres			
Approved	Funding	Treated			
Cost-share	\$7,751	1.5			
Cost-share	\$58,106	7			
Total	\$65,857	8.5			

The Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FRPP) is a voluntary program that helps farmers and ranchers keep their land in agriculture. It provides matching funds to State, Tribal, or local governments and non-governmental organizations with existing farmland protection programs to purchase conservation easements or other interests in land.

FY 2004 FRPP Activities					
Entity	County	Type	Acres	Federal Share	
Colorado Cattlemen's Ag Land Trust	Saguache	Ranch	905	\$482,032	
Trust for Public Land	Saguache	Farm	1,240	\$224,400	
Total			2,145	\$706,432	

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) was reauthorized in the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (Farm Bill) to provide a voluntary conservation program for farmers and ranchers that promotes agricultural production and environmental quality. EQIP provides financial and technical help to assist eligible participants install or implement structural and management conservation practices on eligible agricultural land. EQIP may cost share up to 75% of the costs of certain conservation practices.

FY 2004 EQIP Contract Funding in the Gunnison-Dolores Rivers Watershed						
Natural Resource	Applications	Applications	\$ Amount			
Concerns	Received	Contracted	Approved			
Water Quality	69	25	\$615,633			
Grassland	25	5	\$16,000			
Animal Waste	21	0	\$0			
Wildlife	11	5	\$83,625			
Riparian	7	1	\$19,377			
Salinity - Montrose	116	54	\$2,171,693			
Salinity - Delta	148	60	\$1,975,744			
Salinity - Wildlife	30	10	\$179,049			
CNMP	3	3	\$1,500			
Total	430	163	\$5,163,170			